



Dear Provider,

November 2012

Cameras & Kids 2013 will be launching on **Monday December 10<sup>th</sup> 2012** and submissions will be accepted through **Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup> 2013**. This letter is an overview and introduction of the changes to the Cameras and Kids contest for this year. Detailed procedures, forms, and a letter to the parents in your program are also included in this packet.

The age groups for the contest have been changed to allow more children to be eligible to participate. Also, the contest will run through the winter months and the Award Ceremony will be held on **May 18<sup>th</sup> 2013**.

This year there will be more paperwork involved in submitting photos but the forms are designed to ensure parental consent for the participant and any person who appears in a photograph. Photos will also be submitted directly to a Council staff's email address: [b.fogg@childcarecouncil.com](mailto:b.fogg@childcarecouncil.com) or [c.peno@childcarecouncil.com](mailto:c.peno@childcarecouncil.com). This will increase security for your children's and program's information, protect the images, and photos will only be considered eligible once required forms are submitted. We strongly encourage you to submit the forms for all children that are in your child care program.

The change in the age groups will allow more children to participate. In recent years we began allowing children under 4 to submit pictures. The total age ranges for the contest have been Infant to 12. We realize that many children remain in care through the school year but have turned 13 and would not be able to participate in a fun contest. There are also many children who remain in care for other medical or disability-related reasons who would enjoy taking pictures for a contest. For these reasons we have expanded the age criteria and increased the number of age groups. In other words, more children can participate and more children will have a chance to win.

In order to increase the number of families who can attend the Award Ceremony we are also including a letter you can copy for your parents or post in your program. The letter explains the contest and brief guidelines and gives parents the timeline so they can plan ahead for the Award Ceremony. The 2012 ceremony was held at the Seneca Park Zoo for the first ever Child Care Day, an event for children, their families and child care providers. The 2013 ceremony will be held at Springdale Farm in Spencerport, NY. Springdale Farm is a very fun-filled, family friendly attraction.☺

Again the Cameras & Kids Award Ceremony will be held on **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 2013** with more details to come.

Please review the materials included in this packet and we hope you are able to enjoy Cameras & Kids as a fun part of your indoor/outdoor activities!

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